

REMARKS

The interview with examiner Brigitte Hammond on September 8, 2004 is acknowledged with appreciation. The examiner's summary of the interview appears to be an accurate summary of what transpired.

Claims 1, 6, 23 and 29 have been amended. Claim 34 was indicated as allowable if placed in independent form. Claim 34 has been amended to be in independent form.

Claims 1, 23 and 29 been amended to recite water tight seals being substantially centered on a line extending generally perpendicularly through the longitudinal axis with a seal in a channel on an outer surface of the insulator, which is not taught or suggested by Kooiman (U.S. Patent No. 6,109,964). As discussed at the interview, the prior art of record, including Kooiman does not, taken alone or in combination, have a channel and seals as defined in applicant's claims 1, 23 and 29.

Claim 36 has been held to be non-elected as directed to the embodiment of Fig. 5. Claim 36 is a dependent claim reciting a sensor detecting moisture in a portion of the device. It is submitted that the subject matter of claim 36 is not limited to Fig. 5, rather the sensor for sensing water in a cavity (e.g., cavity 60) is disclosed for use with any of the disclosed cavities of any of the various figures. On this basis claim 36 should be examined with the elected species.

For at least these reasons claims 1-3, 6-7, 23-27 and 29-36 avoid the prior art of record such that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action is, respectfully, requested.

The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if there are any matters that require further action.

A check for \$86 for the additional independent claim is submitted herewith. It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and that shortages in fees, if any, be charged, or any overpayment in fees credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 with reference to file 8392-69554.

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard B. Lazarus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Lazarus" clearly distinguishable.

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